

# 2005 Update on ConferenceXP:

## *A Research Project for Advanced Collaboration and Conferencing*

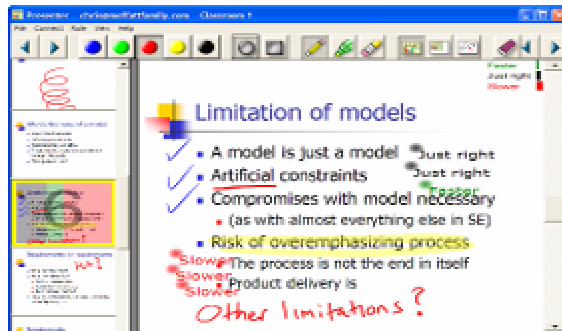
Patrick Bristow  
Software Development Eng.  
Research Platforms Team  
Microsoft Research

<http://research.microsoft.com>

# The ConferenceXP Project

How compelling and deep can we make the experience if we assume high bandwidth, wireless devices, and Windows?

## Collaboration



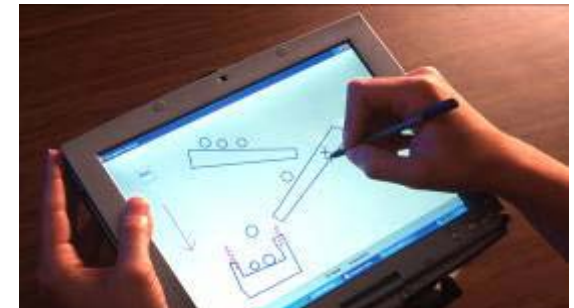
Presentation Collaboration

## Conferencing

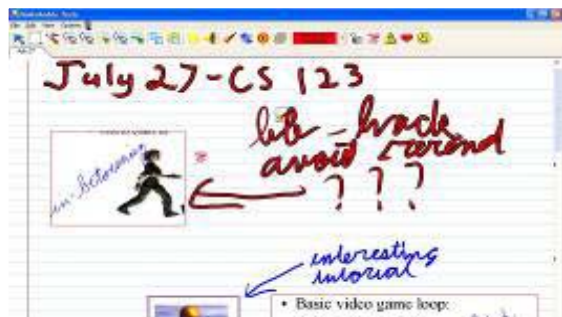


Classroom Experience

## Visualization



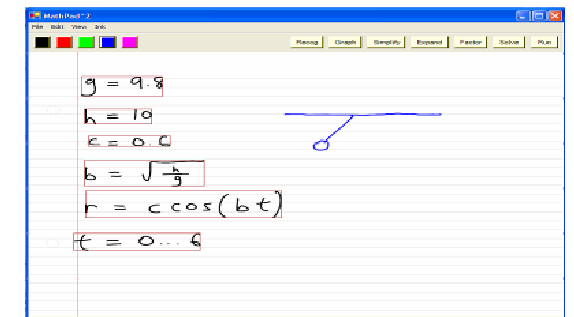
Simulation Experience



Student Collaboration



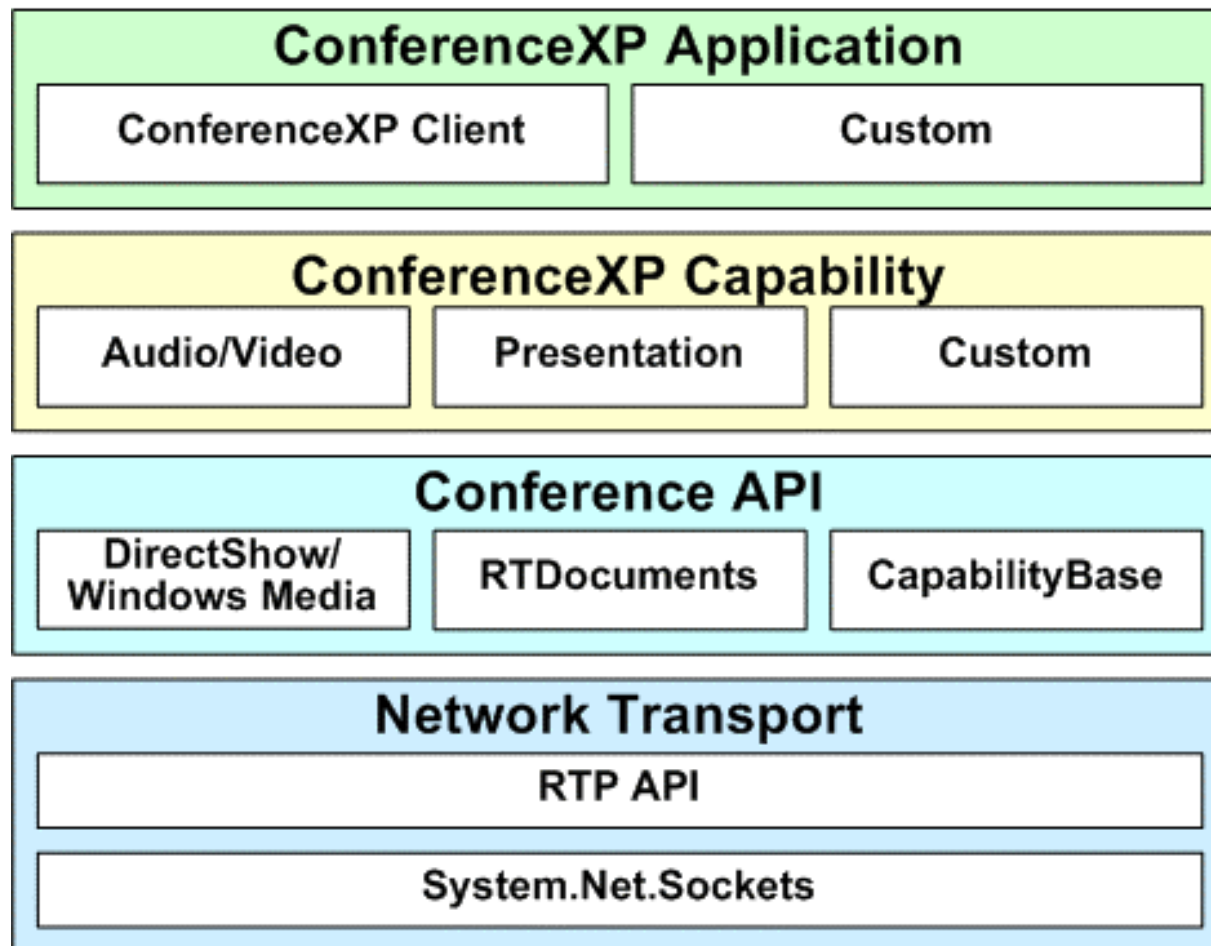
Mentor Experience



Gaming Experience

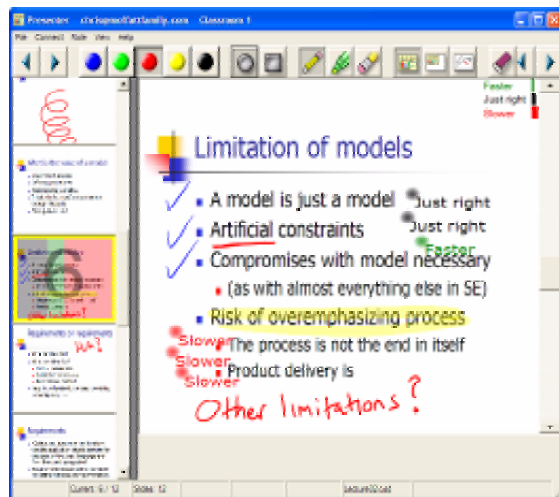
# Goals

- Build a research platform to support conferencing and the development of rich collaborative applications.



# Goals

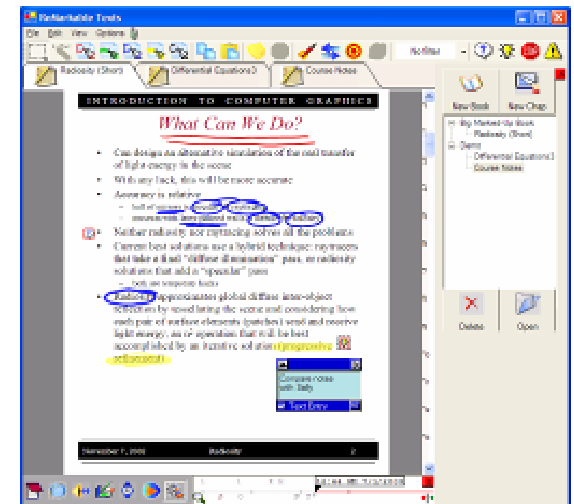
- Build research platform to support conferencing and the development of rich collaborative applications
- Collaborate with the research community to prototype collaboration and conferencing applications that use ConferenceXP



## Presenter (UW)



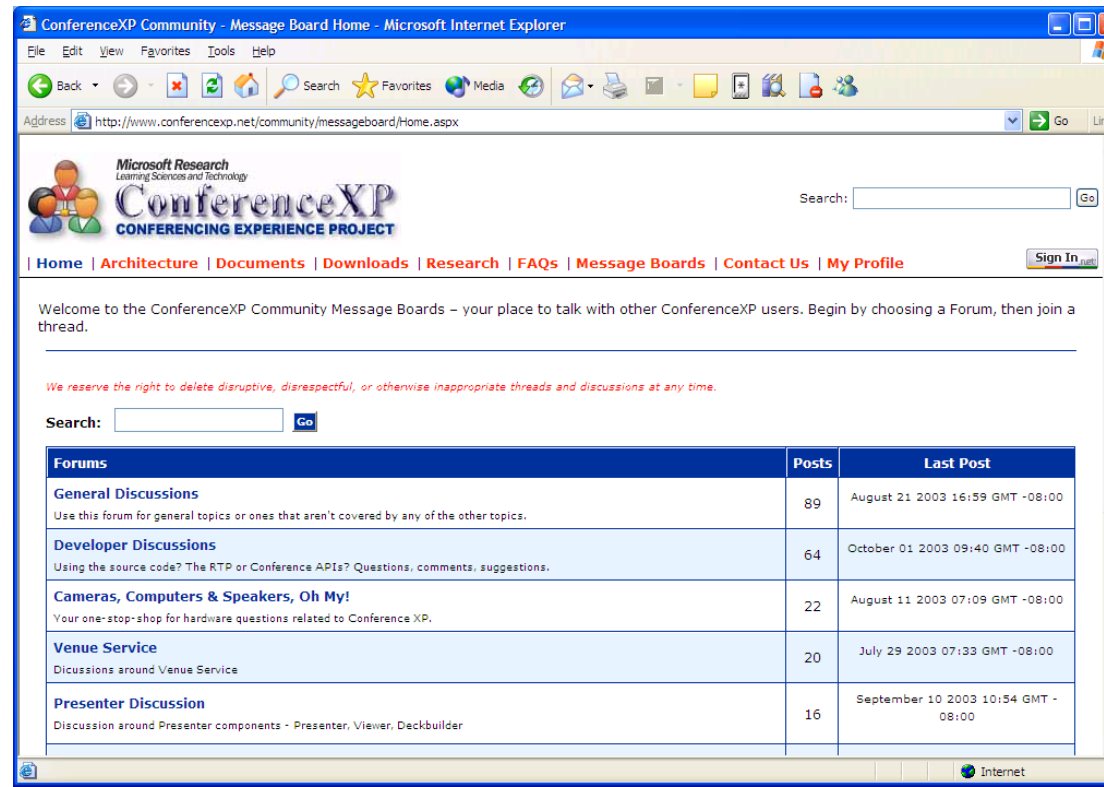
## ConferenceXP Client



## Remarkable Texts

# Goals

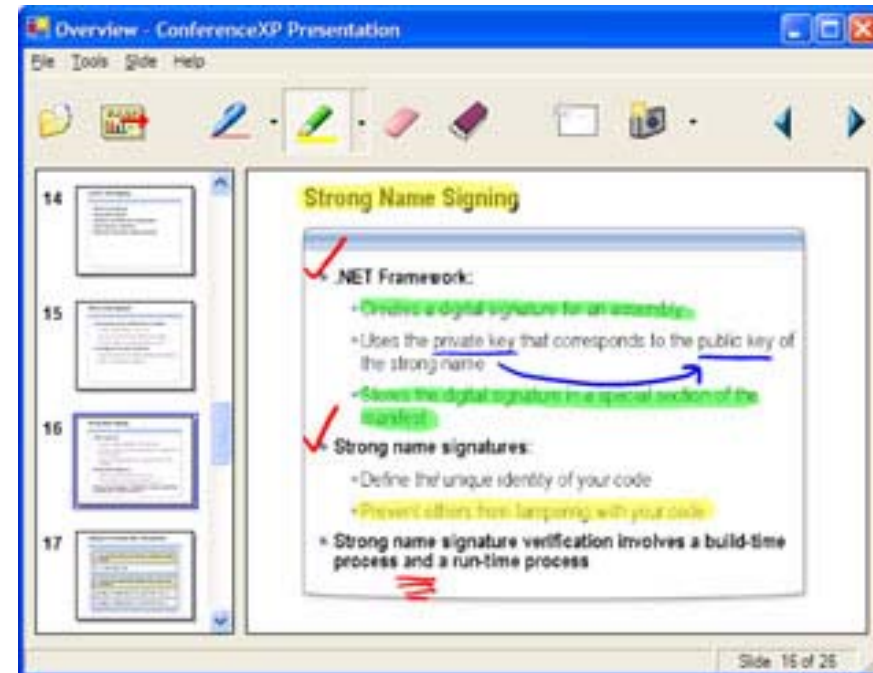
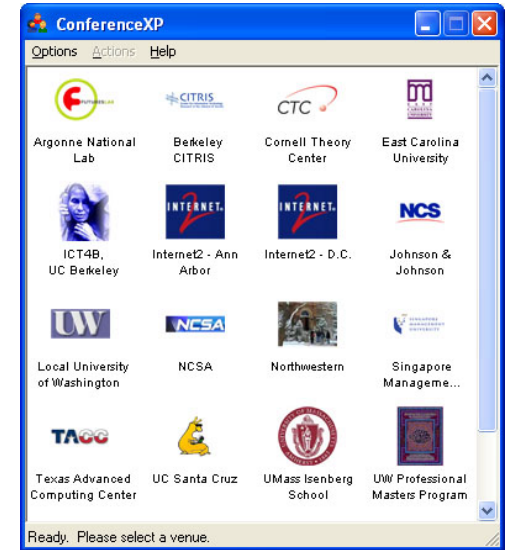
- Build research platform to support conferencing and the development of rich collaborative applications
- Collaborate with research community to prototype learning applications that use ConferenceXP
- Develop a community of developers and implementers





# ConferenceXP Client

- High-quality multipoint conferencing
- Peer-peer, multicast architecture
- Full-screen real-time video at 30 fps
- Built-in presentation capability



# Why Windows?

- World class codecs in the box:
  - Audio
  - Video
  - Screen Capture
- Managed Code & .NET Framework
- Web Services support
- Single platform development

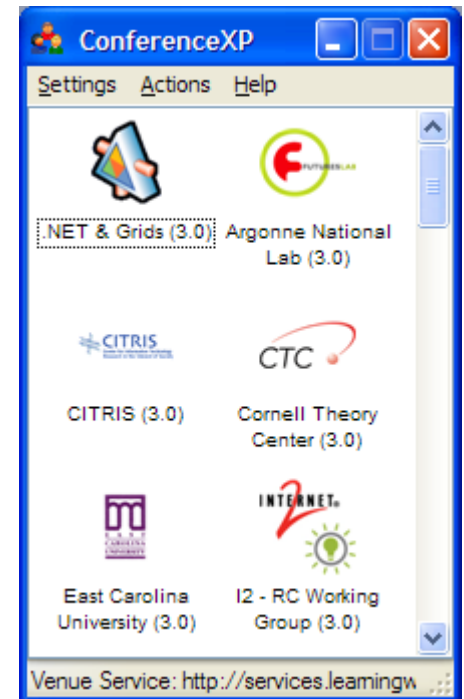
# What's new in 2005?

- Releases
  - Versions 3.0 & 3.1
  - Venue Service 2.0
  - Reflector Service 1.0
  - Archive Service 1.0
- “PMP++” – Four-way Distance Learning
- 2005 RFP



# ConferenceXP Client 3.0 & 3.1

- Improved & Multiple camera support
- Reed-Solomon Forward Error Correction
  - Excellent wireless performance
- Cleaner, more usable A/V UI
  - Remote & local pause
  - Remote volume control



# “Services 2.0”

- Venue Service 2.0



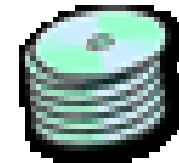
- More light-weight
- Easier to use administrative tools

- Reflector Service 1.0



- Multicast to unicast bridge
- Version 2.0, under research at MSU, should feature “bridging” of multicast clouds

- Archive Service 1.0

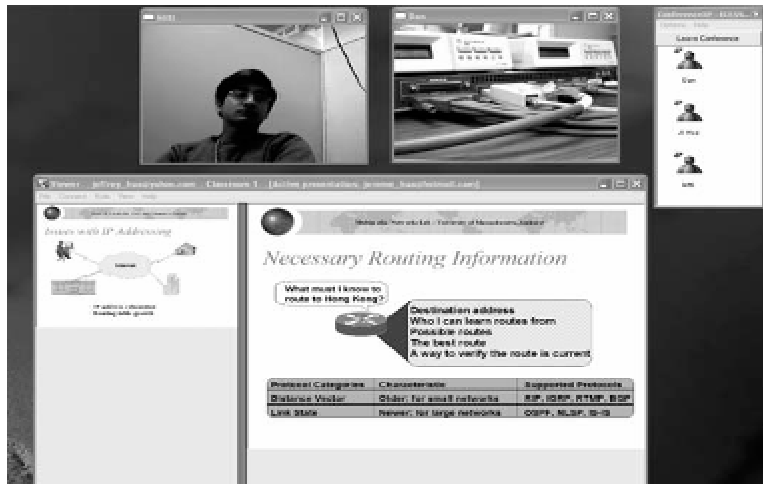


- Direct-to-database archiving of *any* ConferenceXP data
- Moderate recording performance (20 MBps on a single IDE disk), with improvements expected
- Simple, efficient design; needs validation and APIs

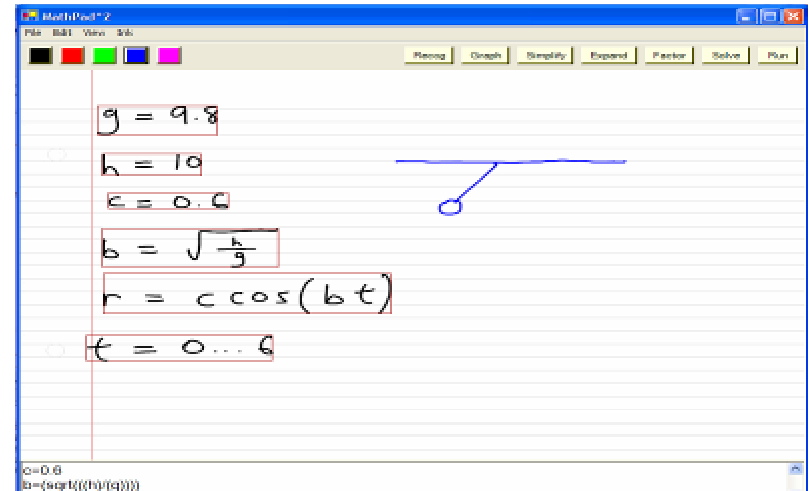
# University of Washington Professional Masters Program (CS)



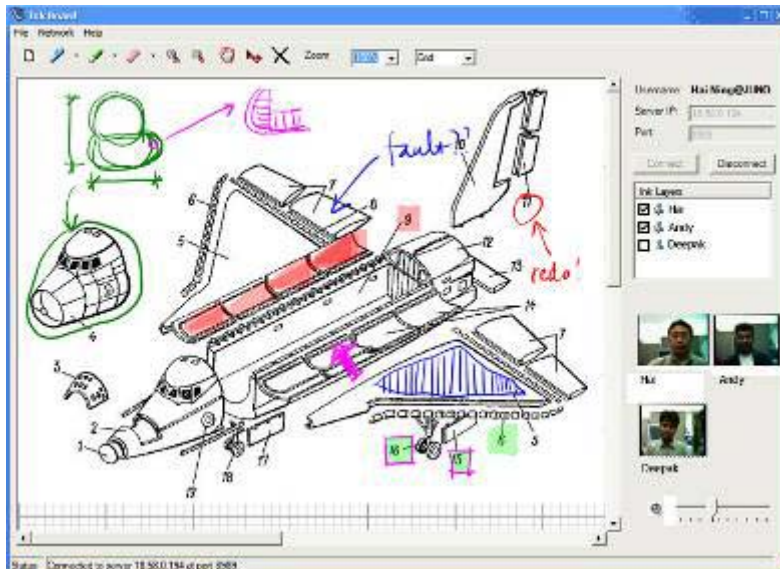
# Sample Research Applications built on CXP



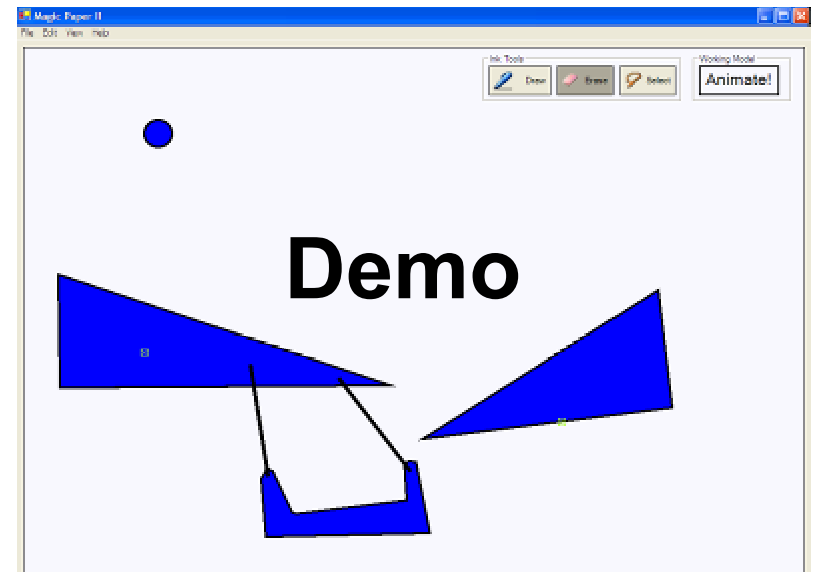
Collaborative Labs - Amherst



Math Visualization - Brown



Design Sketching - MIT



Collaborative Physics Sketching

# Current Problems:

## Good News:

- Same networking and A/V requirements as the Access Grid.

## Bad News:

- Same networking and A/V requirements as the Access Grid.
- ***Deploying multi-cast enabled applications on Internet2 continues to be very, very painful!***
- ***Installing and configuring acoustic echo cancellation is difficult and expensive.***
- No C#/Managed Code for the Mac today (codecs, yes)
- IT support for servers
- Constant monitoring for remote classrooms and conferencing sessions

# Areas for Future Research and Collaboration

- Interoperability with Access Grid
- Generic application display support
- “Venueless Operation” (true peer2peer)
- Archive Server APIs
- Federated Venue Server capability
- Secure operation
- Full IM integration
- Enhanced unicast support
- Intelligent unicast fallback

# Getting Involved

- Joint the ConferenceXP Community site
- Deploy a ConferenceXP Personal Node
- Talk to us about your ideas for cool, collaborative applications that can be enabled over ConferenceXP
- <http://www.conferencexp.net>

Questions?